

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the text appearing on page 38, line 15, with the following amended text:

~~(Example 3)~~ Comparative Example 1

Please replace the text appearing on page 39, line 7, with the following amended text:

~~(Example 4)~~ Comparative Example 2

Please replace the text appearing on page 39, line 22, with the following amended text:

~~(Comparative Example 1)~~ Comparative Example 3

Please replace the text appearing on page 40, line 13, with the following amended text:

~~(Comparative Example 2)~~ Comparative Example 4

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 40, line 14, with the following amended paragraph:

Likewise in ~~Comparative Example 1~~ Example 3, in an inactive atmosphere and with stirring, 10 parts by weight of maleic anhydride and 50 parts by weight of toluene were added to 100 parts by weight of a base polymer being a cycloolefin copolymer with ethylene chains, to give a solution. While the solution was heated at 95°C and stirred, 50 parts by weight of a toluene solution containing 0.25 part by weight of benzoyl peroxide dissolved therein was added dropwise. Subsequently, the mixture was thermally aged at 100°C with stirring for 3 hours and was cooled to room temperature. Thus, a resin solution with 50 wt% nonvolatile components was obtained. The modified cycloolefin copolymer obtained had (RI) of 4.56 and (UV) of 4.11. The distribution correlation coefficient (DR) was determined to be 0.2.

Please replace the text appearing on page 41, line 4, with the following amended text:

~~(Comparative Example 3)~~ Comparative Example 5

Please replace the table beginning at the top of page 43 with the following replacement table:

Table 1

	Toluene	PGA	MEK
Ex. 1	AA	AA	AA
Ex. 2	AA	AA	AA
Ex. 3 <u>Comp. Ex. 1</u>	AA	AA	BB
Ex. 4 <u>Comp. Ex. 2</u>	AA	AA	BB
Comp. Ex. 4 <u>3</u>	AA	CC	CC
Comp. Ex. 2 <u>4</u>	AA	BB	CC
Comp. Ex. 3 <u>5</u>	AA	BB	BB
Unmodified COC	AA	CC	CC